

From: jaccort@mercury.uwe.ac.uk@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 7:59am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Department of Justice,

I realise as a UK resident, my opinions probably mean nothing to you, however, I would appreciate it if you would hear me out.

How the "final solution" to Microsoft's monopoly position is played out will have a crucial effect on the future of computing. No matter what Microsoft may claim, they have never "innovated" anything - almost every single product of theirs can trace roots back to a former rival.

Unless drastic action is taken, Microsoft will be in a position to continue this behaviour - and in the future it will be with the DOJ's implied blessing. There are fewer competitors to Microsoft now than there were 15, 10 or even 5 years ago. If things carry on in this vein, it is conceivable (though I pray to God unlikely), that **every** vaguely computer-oriented device on the planet - every mobile (cellular) telephone, every PDA, every PC, every server, every games console, every cable decoder, every Internet-enabled fridge, even the computer built into your car - will rely on Microsoft software within 10 years.

Please consider this when you finally agree the nature of the solution.